

Evolution and Natural Selection Vocabulary Chart

Word	Definition	Example
Species	Organisms that are closely related and can mate	
Variation	Difference in genes and traits	
Adaptation	Any trait that helps an organism survive and reproduce in its environment	
Evolution	The process of gradual change over many generations	
Natural Selection	Process where individuals better adapted to their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce	\
Population	A group of the same species living in the same place	
Fitness	The ability to survive and reproduce	
Extinct	When an entire species dies out	
Fossil	Preserved remains or traces of organisms	
Fossil Record	A timeline of life on Earth using fossils	